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for the Near Future

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1. Source predicts less interference by the Russians in Eastern Zone politics and more reliance on bloc parties now that the CDU is under control. Bolshevik leaders are convinced that the People's Congress will develop into a unified party (Einheitspartei). The March meeting of the congress will appoint an "all German representation", including some politicians from the West. This representation which will be supported by the Soviet Union, will demand a hearing on all German questions, including the peace terms.
2. Karlshorst expects the formation of Trizonia which will be denounced by the People's Congress as a violation of the Potsdam promise of German unity. The Russians are considering a request that delegates from the "all German representation" participate in Control Council meetings. If this is rejected, the Russians will insist on dissolution of the Control Council and the evacuation of Berlin by the western Allies. If they refuse to evacuate, the Russians will block all traffic between Berlin and the other zones.
3. Protests are expected but no effective action. A test case will be made within the coming weeks in Czechoslovakia. The western states are believed to be unable to act against the Soviet Union except by strategic bombing. France and Italy would be paralyzed by Communist movements, England distracted by domestic worries, the US absorbed with an election. Hence there is a favorable opportunity to round out and secure Soviet conquests in Europe this year. In 1949 and 1950 Korea, Manchuria, and North China will be drawn into the Soviet bloc.
4. The Russians believe that militaristic, anti-Soviet efforts are in process in Finland. The occupation of Finland is expected against probable Finnish resistance while the western powers are still writing protest notes.
5. Source says that important circles in Soviet Russia believe that no Russian atomic bomb exists. Military men are more cautious, but most Russians are convinced that the western powers won't fight.
6. Local elections are scheduled for this fall. They will be held if Berlin has been taken over by the Russians. Then in Berlin alone a united list of the People's Congress will be elected. Otherwise elections will be postponed one year.

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